

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A subject identification method for identifying a subject using an imaging means ~~constituted by including~~ having a bifocal lens which includes a standard lens and a close-up lens ~~having a focal length shorter than a focal length of the standard lens~~, the subject identification method comprising the steps of:

capturing a standard image of the subject in advance to store the standard image as registration standard image data in a registration standard image data storing means, ~~and;~~
~~capturing a close-up image of the subject in advance to store the close-up image as registration close-up image data in a registration close-up image data storing means;~~

~~capturing a current standard image of the subject using the standard lens to generate current standard image data, ~~and;~~~~

~~capturing a current close-up image of the subject using the close-up lens to generate current close-up image data when performing identification of the subject; and~~

~~comparing thereafter by a close-up image data comparing means the current close-up image data with the registration close-up image data stored in the registration close-up image data storing means to thereby perform identification of the subject.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The subject identification method according to ~~claim 10, claim 10~~ further comprising the step of comparing by a standard image data comparing means the

current standard image data with the registration standard image data stored in the registration standard image data storing means, along with said comparing step by the close-up image data comparing means, to thereby perform identification of the subject.

12. (Previously Presented) The subject identification method according to claim 10,

wherein the subject is a person or an animal;

wherein the standard image is a facial image capturing a substantially entire face of the subject; and

wherein the close-up image is an iris image capturing an iris of the subject.

13. (Currently Amended) The subject identification method according to claim 10,

wherein the subject is a person or an animal;

wherein the standard image is a hand/feethand or a foot image capturing a substantially entire hand or foot of the subject; and

wherein the close-up image is a fingerprint image capturing a fingerprint of the subject.

14. (Previously Presented) The subject identification method according to claim 12,

wherein an optical source noise, which is formed by reflecting a light source for illumination used when capturing an image, is combined into the registration close-up image data to be stored in the registration close-up image data storing means;

wherein, when a current close-up image of the subject is captured using the close-up lens, a same light source as the light source for illumination is used so that an optical source noise is combined into the current close-up image data; and

wherein, when the comparing step is performed by the close-up image data comparing means, the current close-up image data including the optical source noise is compared with the registration close-up image data including the optical source noise.

15. (Previously Presented) The subject identification method according to claim 14,

wherein, when the current close-up image of the subject is captured using the close-up lens, a shape, pattern, color, or combination thereof of the light source is updated to be changed; and

wherein, when the comparing step is performed by the close-up image data comparing means, a shape, pattern, color, or combination thereof of the optical source noise of the registration close-up image data used in the comparing step is changed according to the change in a shape, pattern, color, or combination thereof of the light source.

16. (Previously Presented) The subject identification method according to claim 15,

wherein the light source is a display portion which performs displaying on a screen; and

wherein, when the shape, pattern, color, or combination thereof of the light source is updated to be changed, a shape, pattern, color, or combination thereof of a display drawn on the screen of the display portion is changed.

17. (Currently Amended) A subject identification system for identifying a subject ~~using an imaging means constituted by including a standard lens and a close-up lens having a focal length shorter than a focal length of the standard lens, the subject identification system comprising:~~

an imaging means having a bifocal lens which includes a standard lens and a close-up lens having a focal length shorter than a focal length of the standard lens;

a registration standard image data storing means for storing and registering a standard image of the subject captured in advance as registration standard image data;

a registration close-up image data storing means for storing and registering a close-up image of the subject captured in advance as registration close-up image data;

a current standard image obtaining means for capturing a current standard image of the subject using the standard lens to thereby generate current standard image data;

a current close-up image obtaining means for capturing a current close-up image of the subject using the close-up lens to thereby generate current close-up image data; and

a close-up image data comparing means for comparing the current close-up image data obtained by said current close-up image obtaining means with the registration close-up image data stored in said registration close-up image data storing means.

18. (Currently Amended) The subject identification system according to ~~claim 17, claim 17~~ further comprising a standard image data comparing means for comparing the current standard image data obtained by said current standard image obtaining means with the registration standard image data stored in said registration standard image data storing means.

19. (Previously Presented) The subject identification system according to claim 17,

wherein the subject is a person or an animal;

wherein the close-up image is an iris image capturing an iris of the subject;

wherein a light source for illumination emitting light toward the subject when the current close-up image of the subject is captured using the close-up lens is provided; and

wherein the light source is configured to have a shape, pattern, color, or combination thereof which is updated to be changed.

20. (Currently Amended) The subject identification system according to claim 17,

wherein the subject is a person or an animal;

wherein the close-up image is an iris image capturing an iris of the subject;

wherein a light source for illumination emitting light toward the subject when the current close-up image of the subject is captured using the close-up lens is provided; and

wherein the illumination by the light source has ~~at the same brightness as at the brightness needed for capturing the close-up image of the subject for obtaining the registration close-up image data to be stored in said registration close-up image data storing means, and the illumination by the light source keeps a constant brightness every time the current close-up image of the subject is captured.~~

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~program product for a computer to function as a~~ computer-readable subject identification system for identifying a subject ~~using an imaging means constituted by including a standard lens and a close-up lens having a focal length shorter than a focal length of the standard lens, the program product comprising:~~

an imaging means having a bifocal lens which includes a standard lens and a close-up lens having a focal length shorter than a focal length of the standard lens;

a registration standard image data storing means for storing and registering a standard image of the subject captured in advance as registration standard image data;

a registration close-up image data storing means for storing and registering a close-up image of the subject captured in advance as registration close-up image data;

a current standard image obtaining means for capturing a current standard image of the subject using the standard lens to thereby generate current standard image data;

a current close-up image obtaining means for capturing a current close-up image of the subject using the close-up lens to thereby generate current close-up image data; and

a close-up image data comparing means for comparing the current close-up image data obtained by said current close-up image obtaining means with the registration close-up image data stored in said registration close-up image data storing means.

22.-40. (Cancelled)